GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3810
ANSWERED ON:21.04.2008
PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN FOODGRAINS STORAGE
Thomas Shri P.C.

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has allowed participation of private parties in storage of foodgrains;

(b) if so, whether the Godowns of Food Corporation of India (FCI) were hired out to private parties for storage of foodgrains;

(c) if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor;

(d) whether the said move has led to precarious food security situation in the country;

(e) if so, whether the Government has received representations from some States for revival of earlier system of storage and management of foodgrains by the Government; and

(f) if so, the details thereof and reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH)

(a): Yes, Sir. Under the National Policy for development and operation of bulk foodgrain handling, storage and transport facilities on BOO basis, approved by the Govt. of India, a capacity of 5.5 lakh MTs is being created by M/s Adani Agri Logistics Ltd. as under:

(figure in lakh MTs)
Circuit-I

Base Depot - Moga (Pb.) 2.00

Field Depots

i) Chennai (TN) 0.25
ii) Coimbatore (TN) 0.25
iii) Bangalore (KTK) 0.25

Circuit-II

Base Depot - Kaithal (Hr.) 2.00

Field Depots

i) Navi Mumbai (Mah.) 0.50
ii) Hooghly (WB) 0.25

Both the Base Depots at Moga and Kaithal are under operation since May 2007.
FCI does not allow private parties for storage of foodgrains in its godown. However, wherever necessary, FCI is taking private godowns on rent to accommodate the stocks.

(b) & (c): Yes, Sir. The FCI after thorough examination of its capacity has hired out the surplus storage space to government agencies/private parties. The year wise earning from renting out of surplus capacity is as under:

2005-06 Rs. 6.34 crore
2006-07 Rs. 15.15 crores
2007-08 (upto Feb.08) Rs. 11.02 crores (Prov.)

(d) & (e): No, Sir.

(f): Does not arise.